Dodge County Land Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes 127 East Oak Street Juneau, WI 53039 10/24/2016

The Dodge County Land Conservation Committee (LCC) met on 10/24/2016 beginning at 8:30 AM in Room 3A of the Dodge County Administration Building.

- 1. Call to Order: This meeting was called to order by Chair Larry Bischoff at 8:30 AM with the following members present: Larry Bischoff, William Foley, Allen Behl, Lisa Derr, Dale Macheel, and Dick Fink
- 2. Missing: Bill Muche
- 3. Other Dodge County Board Members and Dodge County Staff and Agency Advisors Present: John Bohonek, Conservation Engineering Technician, Jim Mielke, Michael Burg, USDA Wildlife Services, Kathy Turner, Dodge County NRCS DC.
- 4. Excused: Marc Bethke, County Conservationist
- 5. Allen moved to permit the Chair to deviate from agenda to efficiently conduct meeting which was seconded by Bill Foley. Motion carried.
- 6. Approval of September minutes: Motion by Allen seconded by Bill Foley to approve the minutes of September 26, 2016 as sent by mail.
- 7. Public appearances/comment: None
- 8. Agency Advisor Monthly Reports: Kathy Turner discussed the Conservation Stewardship Program which is geared toward long-term stewards. This started in 2005 with long-term projects. But operations change more frequently and the program was harder to manage. This program has over a million acres in CSP. It is being revamped to resemble the EQUIP process by ranking and documenting to support the level of stewardship. We are now also back to assessing farmsteads (instead of just land). They'll be taking applications online in November. Thereafter, Kathy would do a one-

on-one assessment. Funding depends upon how much the producer already doing (rotation and tillage, buffers, spraying, etc.) To be eligible you must already be doing two resource concerns and need to add one new enhancement within the first year of the contract and implement it over the five-year contract. The goal is \$18 per acre. This is now state-wide competitive versus previous area pools. The proof of enhancements must be turned in by end of fiscal year which is September.

- 9. Review of bills and revenue: John Bohonek reviewed bills and revenue as shown on the attached listing.
- 10. Wildlife Crop Damage Program by Michael Burg includes getting 80% of the tags to harvest deer obtained based upon acreage. Enrollment has declined given neighbors' and tenants' concerns. Goose enrollment has increased.
 - a. Committee considered 2016 Program Crop Prices to set the cap to check on crops. Lisa Derr moved to approve the crop price proposal and Dale seconded. Motion carried. Lisa Derr moved to approve the December 1 harvest date for 90% of crops. Allen seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - b. Committee considered 2017 Program Budget Allen moved and Dick seconded to approve the 2017 Program Budget. Motion carried.
 - c. The Committee considered 2017 Deer Donation Program. The county only covers the processing fees. Dale moved to approve Deer Donation program. Bill Foley seconded. Motion carried.
- 11. Farmland Preservation Program, Certificate of Compliance (COC) numbers and software program, COC numbers and software program. John has a list of farmers who are in farmland preservation now. He will be following up with farmers who have not yet submitted a nutrient management plan. They will be issued a COC if they have soil test by December 1 with the plan being implemented by the following season.

The proposal for the Permit Management Suite software was displayed. Dodge County IT wants to speak with Transcendent to see how it will merge with the current county land records program (GLC). On a daily basis, the program updates parcel numbers instead of being contacted by county residents when parcels have been changed. We anticipate to have this

running to process COC numbers by next year. John anticipates that this cost will be covered by IT's budget.

John additionally anticipates sending out a self-certification that the land owner is or is not following the 14 standards. John is required to inspect 25% of those certifications to ensure the accuracy of reporting. They are considering not requiring the crop report which is no longer required by Dept. of Agriculture.

- 12. Land & Water Resource Management Cost-Share Program Monthly Report. John handed out a couple additional cost share agreements to be constructed. They have had some difficulty finding construction companies.
- 13. Land & Water Resource Management Cost-Share Operational Agreement. Allen moved and Dick seconded to approve the cost sharing operational agreement.
- 14. County Conservationist Monthly Report: Significant Work Activities and Issues. John is still signing a few agreements with amending contracts. Tree brochure is in the mail. They received storm grant reimbursement. They received third quarter wildlife damage. John said they are in the process of starting ERP. (This is a new computer tracking system that will track grants, flow through funds, cost share, wildlife damage program, tree program, etc. for each Dodge County department.)
- 15. Committee Member Reports Fox Lake had a special meeting on October 11, 2016, with a lake biologist to revise the budget for aquatic control. A special assessment was approved. Their next meeting is November 10 at 9:00 a.m. BDLIA repaired a carp from a bay and will repeat in the spring which hopefully reduces spawning. By the end of November, they are looking at a scope of work for the UW Water Resource Management plan of study with input from John Bohonek. This includes getting Beaver Creek off the impaired waters list. There will also be a Lakes Group meeting (Lake Emily, Beaver Dam Lake, Lost Lake, Sinnissippi) where Alice Warner will speak about cooperation between lakes and within the county. The meeting date is November 2 at 7:00 p.m. at the Watermark in Beaver Dam.

- 16. Correspondence CREP program contract had an amendment for allotment for each county. Dodge County was reduced from \$700,000 to \$400,000 as well as form numbers but we have plenty of room for additional enrollees.
- 17. Per Diems. Allen moved and Bill seconded that all regular per diems be paid. Motion carried.
- 18. Next Meeting Date. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 21, 2016 beginning at 8:30 AM in Room 3A of the Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, Wisconsin.

19. Adjournment: There being no further business to come before this committee, Derr moved to adjourn. Bill seconded at 10:30AM. Motion carried.

Larry Bischoff, Chair

Lisa Derr, Secretary